

## Gene Center Newsletter September 2005

### Top News

Everybody is welcome to special events this fall! On September 14th, a lecture by Tom Steitz from Yale marks the beginning of an open series of "Special Seminars" intended for the Munich life science community. On October 14th, the 1st International Gene Center/SFB646 Symposium hosts distinguished speakers from the US and Europe. On November 17th, a symposium on "Organismic Biochemistry" focuses on the use of model organisms in studying gene regulation. For details, please see "Events" below.

### Science

#### LMU-Innovative

Based on internal applications and an external review, the University has identified the most promising areas of focused future research. The Gene Center participates in several of the selected research areas, including "BioImaging" and "Cell differentiation and development." From this program we expect funding for two new research groups at the Center.

#### School of science

The LMU will found a School of science that integrates and replaces the Faculties of Physics, Chemistry & Pharmacy, and Biology. The School will consist of the existing scientific Departments and aims to promote interdisciplinary research and teaching.

#### Excellence at German Universities

Within the new federal program for the promotion of excellence at German Universities, the LMU applies for selected "clusters of excellence" & "graduate schools." The Gene Center plays an active role in several applications. Pre-selections will be done over the next half year.

#### Honorary Professorship to M. Mann

Matthias Mann, a new director at the MPI for Biochemistry in Martinsried, has received a Honorary Professorship from the Faculty for Chemistry and Pharmacy. Matthias Mann is a world leader in proteomics and its applications to studying cellular signaling.

### Teaching

#### Selection and welcome of new MSc Biochemistry students

The selection of this year's students who applied for the interfaculty Master course "Biochemistry" will take place on September 8-9, 2005. The newly selected students will receive a welcome and introduction on October 19 at 3 pm in the cafeteria.

#### Doktorandenkolleg "Proteins in health and disease"

The LMU Biomedical Center has established a new graduate program within the "Elitenetzwerk Bayern" with participation of the Gene Center and the MPI Martinsried. The curriculum is tightly connected to the Max-Planck research school "From biology to medicine."

### Events

#### Special Seminar and speaker lunch

Tom Steitz from Yale University, USA, will give a lecture on September 14 at 12 noon. This marks the beginning of an approx. quarterly series of "Special Seminars" that feature highly

distinguished speakers in the life sciences. Special seminars should attract many Munich life scientists and are followed by lunch, allowing discussion with the speaker. At this occasion we inaugurate the new cafeteria on the Gene Center ground floor (although it is not completed yet).

#### 1<sup>st</sup> International Gene Center/SFB646 Symposium

On October 14, 2005 the SFB646 and the Gene Center organize an international symposium. Excellent international speakers participate, including Steve Buratowski and Robin Reed from Harvard. Posters have been distributed. Please attend! It is all free if you register under “news” at <http://www.lmb.uni-muenchen.de/sfb646/SFB646home.html>

#### Gene Center Symposium „Organismic Biochemistry“

A symposium of selected candidates applying for the tenure-track Professorship in „Organismic Biochemistry“ will be held on November 17, 2005. Details will follow. Please mark your agendas – we expect to have talks by many outstanding young scientists.

#### Muenchner Wissenschaftstage @ BuGa 2005

As last year, the Gene Center contributes to the Muenchner Wissenschaftstage. This year the topic is “Life and Light.” The event will take place at the Bundesgartenschau on September 22-25. For details please visit <http://www.muenchner-wissenschaftstage.de/>

---

Newsletter of the Gene Center, University of Munich, <http://www.lmb.uni-muenchen.de/>